

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON: "Beard's Church," St. Peter's Lutheran Church				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Beard's Church Road, about 1/2 mile southeast of Beck Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Chewsville vicinity				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Washington		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Trustees of St. Peter's Lutheran Church				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 1				
CITY OR TOWN: Smithsburg		STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown		STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 74/639, Z/35				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: (cemetery only)				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved
	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>St. Peter's Lutheran Church is located on the north side of Beard's Church Road about 1/2 mile southeast of Beck Road and about two miles north of Chewsville in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated on a rise of ground and faces south.</p> <p>The structure is a one-story, three-bay brick church building painted red with white trim. A central entrance tower topped with an open belfry is present at the south or front elevation.</p> <p>The walls are set on coursed fieldstone foundations. Common bonding is employed in the walls of all elevations. Decorative brickwork at the exterior of the building includes a recessed course of bricks above the window and door openings at the front elevation and several courses of corbeling present on the exposed walls of the tower.</p> <p>Openings are spaced evenly in the walls. Those at the front elevation have Gothic or pointed arched heads. Other openings are rectangular with wide wooden heads.</p> <p>The roof is covered with slate and extends beyond the end walls of the building. A small interior flue of brick is present.</p> <p>The cornerstone is inscribed "E. V. Lutheran Church, 1787, rebuilt 1860." The building is in excellent condition and stands on a tract containing about one acre.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1860

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Beard's Church is significant for its architecture and for its contribution to the early religious history of Washington County.

Architecturally, the Beard's Church is a well maintained example of the type of brick church structures prevalent in Washington County during the mid and late 19th century. The structure is quite simple in appearance with little evidence of complex decorative or structural detail.

The St. Peter's Lutheran Church congregation is one of the oldest in Washington County, having been established before 1754. The original church was located about 200 yards north of the Antietam Creek northwest of Rohrer's Mill or Trovinger Mill, approximately two miles west of the present church. The first church at the present location is said to have been built of logs about 1787. It was replaced by the brick structure in 1860.

An early deed (E/441) by Martin Ridenour and John Beard, agents of the Antietam Church, records the sale of the property where the original church was located. This deed, dated June 9, 1787, was for 10 acres excepting one-half acre for the church and surrounding churchyard. It is probable that this transaction occurred near the time of the move to the present Beard's Church Road location. The new site was on a tract which had belonged to the Beard family.

According to local legend, two lads, Peter Beard and Michael Steffy were directed to draw straws to determine a name for the church. The winner was Peter Beard, thus the church was named for St. Peter rather than St. Michael.

For further historical data on this and other properties in the Chewsville election district, contact Howard L. Spessard, 911 View Street, Hagerstown, Md.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Williams, T. J. C., History of Washington County, Vol. 1, Hagerstown:
Mail Publishing Co., 1906.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approximately 1 acre

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant		DATE August, 1974
ORGANIZATION Washington County Historical Sites Survey		
STREET AND NUMBER: Court House Annex		
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown	STATE Maryland	

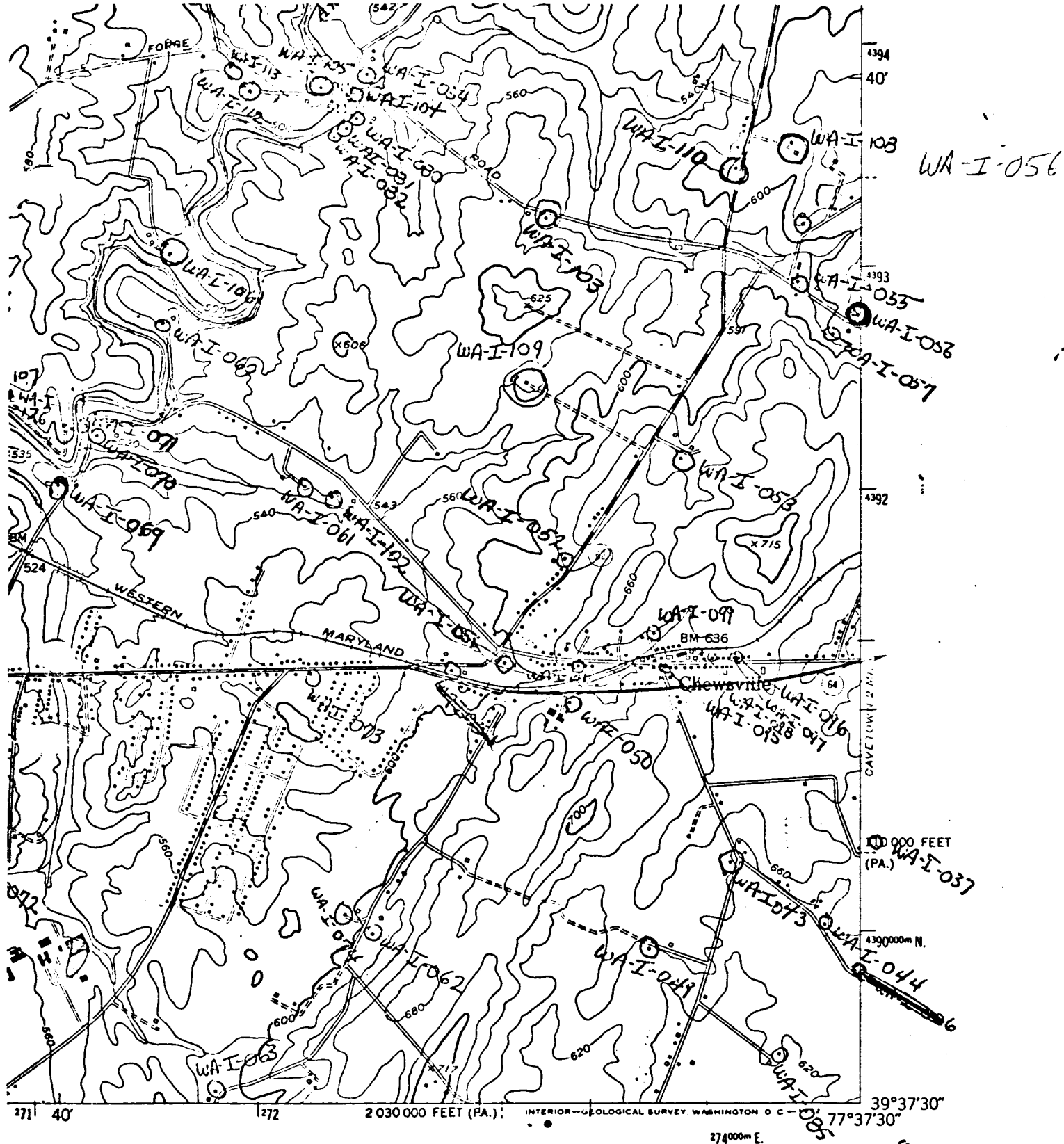
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____

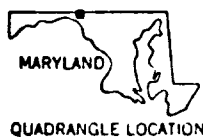
SEE INSTRUCTIONS



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty 4 LANE Light-duty
 Medium-duty 4 LANE Unimproved dirt

U. S. Route State Route
 Interstate Route



HAGERSTOWN, MD.-PA.

NW/4 HAGERSTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3937.5-W7737.5/7.5

Revisions shown in purple compiled by Geological Survey from
 aerial photographs taken 1971. This information not field checked
 Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

1953
 PHOTOREVISED 1971
 AMS 5463 II NW-SERIES V833



